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Aug 31st 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

As a business owner in a small city, it is imperative that we have low-cost internet access at a reasonable rate. The current rate that I pay with my local provider is less than the rate I was paying with a national company. I also receive better service, personal and personable face-to-face interactions, and a local business connection.

Stifling competition is guaranteed to do two things: increase prices and decrease quality. In the business world the dollar speaks loudly. If I can take mine to another (competitive) provider, then my service provider will esteem me as an important customer. If there is no other provider, then I am one of a number and am not valued: it is an entitled mindset from the company holding the monopoly.

The contrast between prices and service from a local provider and those from a national company with little competition is significant. I'll take my local provider, Rockbridge Global Village, any day for their cost effective service with the personal touch.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Nester